



# Item 6.1 - Business bulletin

## Education, Children and Families Committee

**10am, Tuesday, October 6 2015**

European Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

## Education, Children and Families Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Convener Councillor Paul Godzik</p> 	<p>Cllr Paul Godzik (Convener) Cllr Cathy Fullerton (Vice-Convener) Cllr Elaine Aitken Cllr Robert Aldridge Cllr Norma Austin Hart Cllr Lewis Ritchie Cllr Maureen Child Cllr Nick Cook Cllr Gavin Corbett Cllr Cammy Day Cllr Denis Dixon Cllr Michael Bridgman Cllr Allan Jackson Cllr David Key Cllr Richard Lewis Cllr Melanie Main Cllr Eric Milligan Cllr Vicki Redpath Cllr Keith Robson Cllr Jason Rust Cllr Andrew Burns (ex officio) Cllr Sandy Howatt (ex officio)</p>	<p>Morris Smith Senior Committee Officer Tel: 529 4227</p>
<p>Vice-Convener Councillor Cathy Fullerton</p> 	<p>For education items: Marie Allan (religious representative) Rev Thomas Coupar (religious representative) Allan Crosbie (teacher representative) Craig Duncan (religious representative) Alexander Ramage (parent representative) John Swinburne (teacher representative)</p>	<p>Maria Lloyd Departmental Adviser to the Convener and the Vice-Convener Tel: 529 3294</p>

**Business Bulletin October 2015****Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP)**

The last Consultative Committee with Parents (CCwP) on 14 May 2015 was another positive meeting. The two topics chosen by the parents to discuss were: Rising School Rolls and 1:1 Digital Learning.

In the first presentation Crawford McGhie, Asset Planning Manager described the huge amount of building work underway across the Children and Families Estate. This includes: 3 new secondary schools, 9 nurseries, 2 primary schools, 1 special school, 2 children's homes and 8 school extensions which were completed for the start of term. To view the full presentation, please click [here](#).

The second presentation by Dave McKee, Acting Quality Improvement Officer, described the number of 1:1 devices in our schools (e.g. iPads) and the positive impact this is having on teaching and learning. Work is being progressed on a strategy for 'Bring Your Own Device' which would enable pupils to bring computers in from home if they have them. This will only be considered once a full equalities impact assessment is carried out to ensure that there would be equity in provision if a policy like this was implemented.

Thanks are due to Lindsay Law for her hugely valuable input as parent representative on both the CCwP and the Education Children and Families Committee for the past three years. We are delighted to welcome Alexander Ramage as the new Parent Representative.

**Sub Committee on Standards**

There have been two Sub-Committees on Standards since the last Committee. These focussed on five recent Inspection reports from [Sighthill Primary School](#), [Firrhill High School](#), [Firrhill Learning Community](#), [Kaimes School](#) and [Dalmeny Primary School](#).

For more information contact Moyra Wilson, 469 3066 or [Moyra.wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Moyra.wilson@edinburgh.gov.uk)



[CCwP minutes of meeting on 26 February 2015](#)

For more information contact Andy Gray on 529 2217 or [andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk)

### **Corporate Parenting Member/Officer Group**

The Corporate Parenting member officer group on 1 June 2015 was observed by Carolyn Younie from the Scottish Government. She was very impressed with Edinburgh's work in this area. There were several presentations to exemplify the good practice across Edinburgh.

Emma Crawshaw from Crewe 2000 provided information on New Psychoactive Substances also known as "legal highs". There is growing concern about the wide and easy availability of these substances and the low cost making them attractive to young people. The UK government is seeking to create a Bill to prohibit the sale of these substances.

A clear action plan was distributed to Members to explain the range of actions to improve the school attendance of Looked After children. A detailed analysis has been undertaken to look at the attainment of looked after children. A further update will be given at the next meeting in September 2015.

The highly successful Looked After and Active programme will continue for the year ahead. We need to look at future long term funding to sustain this worthwhile project.

### **Homelessness**

We are pleased to report that the number of homeless 16 and 17 years olds has reduced from 280 in 2012 to 130 in 2015. This has been achieved through effective partnership work. Our thanks go to officers for making sure that this work has been prioritised.

For more information contact

Alistair Gaw, 469 3388 or  
[alistair.gaw@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:alistair.gaw@edinburgh.gov.uk)



### **Scottish Attainment Challenge Launch**

We were delighted to welcome Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister, to Clovenstone Primary and Wester Hailes Community High School on 17 August 2015. The First Minister delivered a speech on Scottish Education and announced the second phase of the Scottish Attainment Challenge. This will focus on specific primary schools with significant numbers of pupils living in areas of deprivation.

The schools involved will receive funding from the Attainment Scotland Fund to support work to narrow the attainment gap and improve literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

Eight primary schools were selected on the basis of having over 70% of all of their pupils living in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland. The primary schools are Sighthill, Canal View, Clovenstone, St Francis, St Catherine's, Castlevue, Niddrie Mill and Craigoyston.

For more information contact

Andy Gray 0131 529 2217 or  
[andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Exam Summary

We congratulate our young people on another year of exam success. Positive results include:

- By the end of S4, 39% of the S4 roll achieved 5 qualifications at National 5 level which is an increase of over one percentage point from last year.
- By the end of S5, 58% of the S4 roll achieved 1 or more Highers – a 4 percentage point improvement on last year and a 16 percentage point improvement since 2009. (Across the city there were 6354 presentations for revised higher (pass rate A-C 77%) and 4693 for the new curriculum for Excellence Higher (pass rate 82%).)
- By the end of S6, 63% of the S4 roll achieved one or more Highers – a 2 percentage point (with rounding) increase on the previous year and a 15 percentage point improvement since 2009.
- A particular strength is the percentage increase in attainment across all measures when comparing the 2009 data with the 2015 results.

## Sports Hubs update

There is a strategic plan for School-based Sports Hub for the period April 2015-March 2019. Three are already established in the joint Forrester/St Augustine's campus, Broughton High School and the Royal High School. More recently, Liberton and Portobello High schools have been designated as School based sports hubs. These will be developed on a phased basis with Portobello sports hub planned to coincide with the opening of the new school in 2016.

The intention of these 'hubs' is for local children and local people to be able to access their local sports hub.

They will assist local clubs to increase capacity through access to sports facilities and through recruitment and development of coaches. There will be support for children and young people with disabilities or additional needs to access sport. These hubs will also enhance holiday programmes for the community and enable first class sporting events with partners to take place. All of this will help to promote sport and enhance partnerships within communities.

## Positive Destinations

This was another successful year for school leavers moving into positive destinations. Figures published by the Scottish Government show that the number of school leavers in Edinburgh sustaining a positive destination are at the highest level ever. The figure is up 10 per cent since the Edinburgh Guarantee began three years ago and is now at 93.1 per cent (up from 91.2 per cent the same time last year).

It is worth highlighting the following:

- 16 out of 23 secondary schools have increased their positive destinations from the Initial Report in September 2014.
- Employment has increased from 19.2% to 25.2% (617 to 805) – evidence that Edinburgh Guarantee is having impact
- City wide "unknown" has decreased from 20 down to 8 (0.35%)
- Largest increases in Positive Destinations – Craigroyston 55 to 64 (up 13.1%) Firrhill 181 to 194 (up 6.8%) Forrester 75 to 79 (up 6.7%) Gracemount 89 to 95 (up 6.8%)
- Unemployed Seeking has dropped from 230 to 176 (7.2% to 5.5%).



For more information contact

Andy Gray 0131 529 2217 or [andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:andy.gray@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Consortia Arrangements for Youth Services

Over the past year, work has been underway in Leith to bring together providers of youth services from the voluntary and statutory sectors to develop a more cooperative approach to delivering youth work in their local area. Areas highlighted have included improving co-ordination of services to avoid potential duplication, making better use of existing resources such as buildings and equipment, and identifying gaps in services to inform future partnership projects. The Leith Youth Services Network is now the main forum for advancing this work.

This work has informed the Council's new approach to commissioning youth services across the city for youth work. The new specifications will also reflect strongly young people's views on youth work and youth clubs, and help us to decide how we fund youth work in the future.

For further information contact

David Bruce, 469 3795 or  
[david.bruce2@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:david.bruce2@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Carers' Champion progress update

The Health Social Care and Housing Committee on 16 June 2015 considered an update report on the [Carers Champion Progress](#). The Committee approved the recommendations in the Director's report and referred the report to the Education Children and Families Committee

For further information contact

Gordon Dodds, Planning and Commissioning Officer (Carers) 0131 553 8347 or  
[Gordon.dodds@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Gordon.dodds@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## FairTrade Schools Programme

To date 19 schools have reached FairTrade status and been recognised for the work they are doing to make the world a fairer and more equal place. A further 43 school have registered to become FairTrade schools.



## Playday 2015

Another successful PlayDay event took place on Wednesday 29 July 2016 to promote play in the city.

This was the 15th year that the event has been held and every year gets bigger and more fun! Thousands of people, both young and old, have come along to join in activities on offer.

Playday is the national day for play. On Playday thousands of children and their families get out to play at hundreds of community events across the UK.

As well as a celebration of children's right to play, Playday is a campaign that highlights the importance of play in children's lives. It's all about learning for life and showing that play is fun not just for the child but for adults as well.

Playday is part of the successful City of Edinburgh Council [Play Strategy](#).

For further information contact

Aileen McLean, 469 3300 or  
[aileen.mclean@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:aileen.mclean@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Euroquiz

In 2014/2015 21 schools took part in the Edinburgh heat of the national Euroquiz for primary schools. This event is organised in partnership with Scottish European Educational Trust and is open to state and independent schools.

## International Unit update

### Key areas of activity undertaken in 2014-2015 academic year:

#### Language assistants

In 2014/15 academic year we organised 54 placements for student teachers from other countries. These students are often able to undertake the role of volunteer language assistants in schools whilst completing their teacher training for their home universities. Student teachers mainly came from Switzerland, Germany and Spain.

#### International study visits

24 professional study visits for 388 teachers were organised in 2014/15 academic year. These typically included visits to Edinburgh schools and presentations from Edinburgh staff or consultants.

#### Learning for Sustainability Conference

In May 2015 International Unit in partnership with the Sports and Outdoor Learning Unit and Parks and Green Spaces team delivered the first Learning for Sustainability Conference in Edinburgh.

## Wave 3 and Wave 4 Schools

The Wave 3 schools programme is progressing well and an update on each project is provided below. Initial analysis of which schools could potentially be considered in a Wave 4 programme has also been progressed and an update [report](#) was considered by Council on 20 August 2015.

For more information contact Billy MacIntyre 469 3366 or [Billy.MacIntyre@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:Billy.MacIntyre@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## New Portobello High School Topping Out

Portobello High School Topping Out ceremony in June 2015 marked a key stage for Portobello and a special day for everyone who has been involved in the project over many years. The new school is on schedule to be open for the start of the 2016/17 school year.

## Rights Respecting Schools Award

This UNICEF programme is an area of growth for Edinburgh schools supported by the International Unit and the Health and Wellbeing Team.

36 schools are registered with the scheme and working towards accreditation. We have 14 schools at ROC level, 7 at Level 1 and 2 schools at Level 2.

### 'Project Kit Bag – Pack Up Your Troubles'

This was a unique global citizenship and creative learning experience to commemorate Edinburgh's Heritage of World War One. Four Kit Bags of World War One resources were given as a learning resource to four Edinburgh High Schools. The young people were supported by City of Edinburgh Council staff in Arts & Creative Learning, International Unit, Community Learning & Development and the Libraries Service.

## Links with schools abroad

Partnerships with other countries continue to increase. Linking opportunities are regularly advertised to all Edinburgh schools through a bi-monthly Newsletter. For further information contact David Bruce, 469 3795 or [david.bruce2@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:david.bruce2@edinburgh.gov.uk)



### **New James Gillespie's High School Teaching Block Officially Opened**

The new teaching block at James Gillespie's High School opened its doors after the Easter Holidays and the staff, pupils and parents are delighted at the outcome. The final phase of the project to construct the new sport and performance blocks is already well underway and is on schedule to be open for the start of the 2016/17 school year.

### **New Boroughmuir High School**

Excellent progress is being made with the construction of the new Boroughmuir High School. The initial challenges with the foundations and ground conditions have now been successfully overcome.

### **St Crispin's Special School**

Capital funding for the new school is available in 2017/18 financial year. We are currently looking at options for its location. There will then follow consultation in advance of the project to deliver the new school starting.

### **Defibrillator installation project - Position statement**

I last updated you that in January this year we committed as a Council to deploy defibrillators initially in all secondary schools and 11 other key Council buildings.

Further progress has been made on this and guidance and information on use and operational accessibility is being developed.

Training and familiarisation sessions are planned. It is anticipated that the defibrillators will be installed during November and December.

### **Annual Health Fair for Looked After and Accommodated children and young people**

Once again the Annual Health Fair was a great success, hosted by the Jack Kane Centre on 16 July 2015. The event was an opportunity for looked after and accommodated children, young people and their carers to meet with a range of professional while enjoying a fun day out.

### **St John's RC Primary School**

The site for the new St John's primary school on part of the former Portobello High School grounds has been agreed and we already have an outline design. The detailed design work for the new school will start soon to allow the planning application to be submitted early in the new year. We expect the new school to be opened in early 2018.

### **Drylaw Young People's Centre Inspection**

Congratulations to colleagues at Drylaw Young People's Centre following their recent inspection report. The Care Inspectorate graded the 'Quality of Staffing' as "Excellent" with 'Quality of Care and Support', 'Quality of the Environment' and 'Management and Leadership' graded as "Very Good". This is a great achievement for the whole team.

The high quality of residential care provided in Edinburgh is reflected in the recent round of Care Inspectorate reports with all residential establishments for young people receiving grades of "Good" and "Very Good" across the sector.

### **New ICT contract**

A new [ICT contract](#) is set to transform our ICT services and save a minimum of £45m over the next seven years. It will also deliver an estimated £46m worth of essential services at no extra cost. The preferred bidder – CGI – is one of the largest independent suppliers in the world and bring vast experience of transforming ICT services and accelerating channel shift, which will be hugely important in supporting our objectives for change.

Our schools will benefit greatly with bandwidth in secondary schools set to increase by up to 50 times, and primary schools by up to 100 times. The contract will also create over 200 jobs locally, plus over 60 new modern apprentice opportunities.



## Psychology of Parenting Project (PoPP) Update

PoPP is aimed at improving the availability of high quality evidence-based parenting programmes for families with young children (3 and 4 year olds) who have behaviour problems. You can read about this on the Psychology of Parenting Project [website](#).

More information on this is available from Pat Southall on 469 3417

[pat.southwall@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:pat.southwall@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Scottish Education Awards

Congratulations to Dalry Primary School for winning the Scottish Education Awards.

We are pleased to announce that we had five finalists in the Scottish Education Awards 2015. Congratulations to them all!

- Gracemount Primary School - Learning Through Technology Award
- Michele Price, Colinton Primary School - Educational Supporter of the Year
- Stenhouse Primary School - Gaelic Education Award
- Drummond Community High School – Creativity
- Dalry Primary School – Creativity

## The Convener's Challenge

On 5 June 2015, pupils from secondary schools across Edinburgh worked in teams as they pedalled, paddled and plotted their way across the city as they competed to win the Convener's Challenge! Twelve schools took part in the inaugural activity challenge, but there could only be one winner and it was Tynecastle High School! You can read about this on our [brightfutures](#) blog.



## Polar Academy

It is fantastic that ten Edinburgh teenagers are preparing to face sub zero temperatures and navigate through harsh landscapes as part of a major Arctic expedition.

The pupils from five schools have been chosen by Polar Academy, a charity that aims to transform the lives of "invisible and forgotten" young people. These ten young people have been selected after completing a very intense training programme. They will embark on the 10 day trek, covering 62 miles (100km) of Greenland, in March 2016.

## Oaklands Award Winners

On 1 May 2015, three senior pupils from Oaklands School attended an awards ceremony at the Telegraph Headquarters in London to collect their prize for winning the 15-19 age group in the [National Enterprise Competition](#), the Tenner Challenge.



## Scottish Schools of Co-operation Charter Mark Award event

The Scottish Schools of Co-operation Charter Mark Award event was held in the City Chambers. Pupils from participating schools attended to receive their plaques from the Convener of Education, Children and Families, Councillor Paul Godzik.

The City of Edinburgh Council is at the vanguard of the schools of co-operation movement, as the first co-operative authority in Scotland. Schools gaining Level 1 were:

- Craigmount High School – Fairtrade Events
- Gorgie Mills School – Sharing co-operative values
- Tollcross – Fundraising
- Ferryhill – Developing a learning cluster
- St Catherine's – Enterprise projects
- St Francis – Health and wellbeing
- Hermitage Park – Fundraising
- Blackhall – Pupil committee
- Granton – Self-help and responsibility

For more information contact Joyce on any of these [brightfutures](#).

## Games @ the Hub

On Tuesday 9th June 2015 Active Schools hosted the third [Games @ the Hub](#) event at Forrester/St Augustine's High School. All 88 primary schools were invited and 54 schools, 1100 P6 pupils attended the largest sports day of the year! Pupils took part in a skills based session at the beginning of the day and progressed into a competitive tournament in the afternoon.



## Evening News Awards

Congratulations to everyone who was nominated for these awards. Pilrig Park School won the School of the Year category with Liberton and Craigroyston High Schools being joint runners-up. Juliet McCann was runner-up for Teacher of the Year for her work as Principal Teacher at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children. Two of our foster carers recognised – Sharon Duncan won the Carer of the Year category and Nicola Hogg was a finalist.

## Sportscotland

A new award from sportscotland has been given to two of our schools Firrhill High School and St Joseph's Primary. They each receive the prestigious GOLD status. This award recognises the fantastic work to improve and increase the physical education and sport opportunities available to the young people in schools across Scotland.

## Paolozzi Award

This was another fabulous ceremony with outstanding young people being awarded prizes for their art work. The overall winner was Casey Black, S6 at Holy Rood. Well done to the award winners and their art teachers. Full details of all the winners are available on [brightfutures](#).

## Adult Learners Achievement Awards

This was a great opportunity to hear about the work taking place across the city to support adult learners. This year the Outstanding Achievement Award went to Kindling the Flame (The Outlook Project) where students looked at 'what adult education means to me' through art, drama and creative writing courses culminating in an exhibition as part of the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival. The group developed a Manifesto for Adult Learning which was launched during the exhibition and also presented it, along with the students' experiences at the cross party group on adult learning at the Scottish Parliament earlier this year. To see a list of all the winners click [here](#).

## **Contribution of Edinburgh's Third Sector : Annual Report 2015**

Committees may wish to note that the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee in the autumn of each year receives a report highlighting the [social and economic contribution](#) of Edinburgh's third sector and active citizens. Charities, social enterprises and community organisations provide a diverse range of services both across the city, in localities and within neighbourhoods. Work undertaken by these organisations includes; education, citizenship, community development, well-being, tackling poverty and inequality, prevention, citizen care and support and environmental action.

The most recent year (2014/15) indicated that the city's 2,169 charities generated £2.45Bn and employed 15,000 people. Of these, 986 (45%) provide services within the City working alongside the 175,000 people that regularly volunteer. With government funds reducing by 2% in the year, self-generated income has continued at a value of 78% of income.

There are however pressures across the City's third sector with 71% expecting competition for resources to grow, 77% anticipate the need for greater collaboration, 57% of organisations do not have sufficient volunteers, organisations are experiencing acute reductions in financial reserves and, similar to the Council, managing increasing demand amid dwindling public resources.

Through the City's beacon [Edinburgh Compact arrangement](#) and against the backdrop of transformation and service and budget pressures, the Council continues to have a positive and productive working relationship with the third sector. Third sector contributions to community planning and engagement, prevention and mitigation of poverty and inequality, co-designing services and collaborative working in localities and neighbourhoods are a continuing feature of city well-being. For the 220 organisations receiving council grant investment, attainment of targets has increased by 3% to 97%.

Councillors Maureen Child and Alex Lunn, Convener and Vice-Convener of the Communities and Neighbourhoods Committee.

Further information is available from Graeme McKechnie on 0131 463 3861 or [graeme.mckechnie@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:graeme.mckechnie@edinburgh.gov.uk).